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CLIMATEWIRE — Mon., May 18, 2015



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1. REGULATION:

Despite political rhetoric, 41 states exploring Clean Power Plan options

At least 41 states are in talks with neighbors about how they might cut power-sector carbon emissions under U.S. EPA's Clean Power Plan, despite appeals from Republicans in Congress for state officials to refuse to comply, according to regional coordinators.

2. RENEWABLE ENERGY:

How Vt. dairies keep the lights on with 'cow power'

David Dunn is no stranger to poop jokes. In fact, for Dunn, as the manager of a program that converts cow manure into energy, they are an occupational hazard. "One [person] likened my name, Dunn, to Cow Dung. Another called me the King of Crap, the Prince of Poo and the Sultan of Shit," he explained. The name-calling may be in good fun, but Dunn's work is serious business. The Cow Power Program at Green Mountain Power in Rutland, Vt., which he leads, provides electricity for 2,500 customers from large quantities of anaerobically digested manure. Proponents of anaerobic digestion, a process by which microbes in a hot, oxygenless environment break down manure and release methane, hope it gains broader traction nationally because of its environmental as well as potential economic benefits.

TODAY'S STORIES

3. RISK:

GAO report finds 'disaster-specific' funds are not part of states' extreme weather planning

4. ENERGY:

World is far behind electricity goals, despite 'encouraging progress' -- report

5. NATIONS:

As China cuts its coal use, its emissions are on track for record annual drop -- study

6. NEGOTIATIONS:

Canada under fire for not regulating oil sands in new emissions plan

7. FORESTS:

Sri Lanka becomes first nation to place all mangroves under protection

8. RESEARCH:

Los Angeles area could see a doubling in extreme heat days by midcentury

9. WEATHER:

El Niño expected to persist through summer, could bring heavy rain to southern U.S.

10. EMISSIONS:

Wildfires could thwart Calif. climate targets, exacerbate warming around globe

11. NATIONS:

Ontario sets new emissions target

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12. CLEAN POWER PLAN:

Behind the scenes, critical states chew over Clean Power Plan options

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ClimateWire is written and produced by the staff of E&E Publishing, LLC. It is designed to provide comprehensive, daily coverage of all aspects of climate change issues. From international agreements on carbon emissions to alternative energy technologies to state and federal GHG programs, ClimateWire plugs readers into the information they need to stay abreast of this sprawling, complex issue.

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